

1 \_\_\_\_\_ BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

2 INTRODUCED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING LAWS RELATED TO SCHOOL MEALS;  
5 ESTABLISHING A STATE PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC  
6 INSTRUCTION TO ELIMINATE COSTS TO STUDENTS FOR SCHOOL MEALS; PROVIDING RULEMAKING  
7 AUTHORITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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11 NEW SECTION. **Section 1. State funding to eliminate student costs for school lunch and**

12 **breakfast -- legislative intent -- rulemaking.** (1) The legislature recognizes that proper nutrition is a  
13 foundational requirement for learning and intends:

14 (a) to strengthen the opportunity of each child to develop the child's full educational potential in  
15 accordance with the goal of the people articulated in Article X, section 1(1), of the Montana constitution; and

16 (b) that the program under this section be implemented in a manner that maximizes the amount of  
17 federal school meals support received by school districts.

18 (2) The superintendent of public instruction shall administer a program to distribute replacement  
19 funds to school districts electing to provide school lunch or breakfast or both to all students at no cost to the  
20 student. The superintendent shall adopt rules necessary to administer the program.

21 (3) A participating school district shall maximize access to federal funds for the cost of the school  
22 breakfast and lunch program by participating in any federal provision that in the opinion of the superintendent of  
23 public instruction draws down the most possible federal funding for meals served in that program.

24 (4) For the purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

25 (a) "Participating school district" means a school district whose board of trustees elects to  
26 participate in the program.

27 (b) "Program" means the program administered by the superintendent of public instruction under  
28 this section.

